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Thompson Coburn LLP
Attorneys at LawOne US Bank Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63101-1693
314-552-6000
FAX 314-552-7000
www.thompsoncoburn.com**Facsimile**

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To	Firm Name	Phone	Fax
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From: Kimberly H. Lu

Date: 03/30/2005

Message:

Re: U.S. Patent Appl. No. 09/576,989; Filing Date: May 23, 2000
Applicant: Rice et al.; Title: HCV Variants
Atty. Docket No.: 56029-4356

Atty/Client/Matter No.: 3069/56029/04356

Total Number of Pages, including this page: 3

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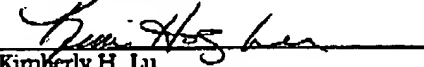
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Ser. No. 09/576989
Atty. Docket No. 56029-4356**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE**

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Kimberly H. Lu
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No.: 51,973

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/576,989	Group No.: 1648
Inventor: Rice et al.	Status of Application: Pending
Examiner: Lucas, Zachariah.	Art Unit: 1648
For: HCV Variants	Atty. Docket No.: 56029-4356

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Statement of Substance of Interview under 37 C.F.R. § 1.133 (b)**Participants:**

- 1) Zachariah Lucas
- 3) Kimberly Lu

- 2) Charles P. Romano

Date: March 17, 2005

Type: Telephonic

Exhibit shown: No

Claims Discussed: 69, 70, 100, 101

Art Discussed:

3096865

- 1 -

Ser. No. 09/576989
Attr. Docket No. 56029-4356

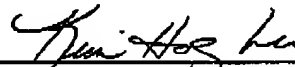
Statement of Substance of Interview under 37 C.F.R. § 1.133

Substance of Interview:

The Examiner considered Claims 69, 70, 100, and 101 to encompass two groups of inventions. Group I comprises polynucleotides, vectors and isolated host cells and Group II comprises transgenic animals and engrafted host cells. Examiner further indicated that a restriction requirement between the groups would be proper and that the portions of Claims 69, 70, 100, and 101 directed to the subject matter of Group I were allowable. Examiner suggested that Applicant elect the claims that are directed to the subject matter of Group I and delete the claims or portions of the claims that are directed to the subject matter of Group II. To accomplish this, the Examiner recommended an Examiner's Amendment. The Examiner stated that the recommended amendments would result in an allowance of the subject matter of Group I, and Applicant retains its rights to pursue the subject matter of Group II in subsequent application(s).

Applicant requested that Examiner a draft Interview Summary outlining the restriction requirement and the Examiner's proposed claim amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly H. Lu, Reg. No. 51,973
Thompson Coburn LLP
One US Bank Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
Telephone: 314-552-6307
Fax: 314-552-7307